2020 – 2021 Impact Report

With the pandemic requiring students to be remote from campus & restricting access to preschools, Jumpstart Simmons piloted a virtual program year! Our long-standing preschool partners in Jamaica Plain – ABCD JP Head Start and Nurtury Learning Lab – were willing to move forward with a pre-recorded content model.

As with every year, students committed to serving a 300 hours term of service with AmeriCorps, were placed in a team with their peers to serve a specific classroom, and were provided with training, reflection, and continual SCE staff support. This year, teams were tasked with working together to translate Jumpstart’s session plans (designed for in-classroom interactions) into engaging video activities. Each week families received an activity newsletter with video readings and activities specifically created for their child’s classroom. Families were provided a supply kit filled with materials to use during the recorded Jumpstart activities.

As a result of the continued pandemic, all members – regardless of their number of hours – were able to exit the program without penalty and with AmeriCorps benefits.

By the Numbers...

30 AmeriCorps members enrolled
1016 videos created
165 hours of video content created
150 activity supply kits distributed to preschools & families
110 activity-filled newsletters distributed
126 children & families received videos
9 preschool classrooms served across 2 preschools in JP
5,253.75 hours served
2 members reached 300 hours during the pandemic
33,035 dollars awarded to students in Segal Education Award scholarship
84,328 dollars granted to Simmons to operate Jumpstart on campus

According to Jumpstart’s national post-service member survey, Simmons members rated these skills as stronger after serving with Jumpstart:
• Problem-solving & communicating with adults
• Collaboration & team-work
• Time management
• Improvising in unexpected situations
• Understanding professional expectations
• Taking a leadership role
• Understanding & working with individuals from diverse backgrounds
• Working to address problems in the community

Jumpstart Simmons is an affiliate program of Jumpstart for Young Children Inc. Learn more by visiting jstart.org.

You can reach out to us directly at jumpstart@simmons.edu.
University Service Award Winners!

Leila Pettibone  
1st year member  
SCE Emerging Leader Award  
This award recognizes a student who has made significant contributions to the community and lead by example early in their time at Simmons.

Laura Romano  
4th year member  
Judith Botelho Commitment to Service Award  
This honor is awarded to a student who exemplifies the commitment to community service that Judith Botelho demonstrated as a student and AmeriCorps VISTA during her six years at Simmons.

Allison Stacey  
2nd year member  
Jennifer McKee Distinguished Student Service Award  
This award recognizes a student whose work with the SCE has made a unique and lasting contribution while exhibiting traits of leadership, vision, determination, and a sense of purpose.

“My service has shown me the beauty of community during a time where it is difficult to make new relationships. It has shown me that there are always people who will go the extra mile to inspire others and foster knowledge.” – 1st year member

“In this time where everything seems stagnant, Jumpstart is helping me move forward with not just my career goals but my personal ones as well.” – 2nd year member